

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification beginning at page 1, line 3 and ending at page 1, line 11 as follows:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a crosstalk checking method for checking crosstalk caused by signal transition of either one of adjacent lines between the adjacent lines in an layout design of a semiconductor integrated circuit configured by connecting basic logical cells or functional macro blocks via inter-cell lines.

2. Description of the Related Art

The prior art will be described in reference to FIGS. 13 to 17.